

POEM'S REMARKABLE

Discovery of Talent in Oklahoma Is Made

BY PRESIDENT A. C. SCOTT

Miss Roe and Her Picture of a Winter Prairie Fight.

Guthrie, O. T., April 14.—President A. C. Scott of the college at Stillwater, always alert for indications of talent among the youthful Oklahomans, has rescued from oblivion a beautiful poem, and has given to genius probably the breath of encouragement which has set a spark of inspiration in a young woman's brain to glowing, possibly to a blaze that later will produce for the world a great art, for the young woman herself fame.

The poem is a prairie scene and is clearly, strongly planned. In his letter to the Eagle in regard to the Poetess, President Scott says:

"I think I have discovered a new poet in Oklahoma. The little sketch which I enclose was written by Miss Virginia Roe, a few years ago a school girl of Guthrie. Her father, Dr. Roe, will be remembered by Guthrie people, and is now at Cherokee, I came across this sketch in the Perkins Journal a little while ago. You know what the contributed 'poetry' in country newspapers is, and the blame is not on the papers, either—they just can't help it. There is a horrible fascination about these productions, however, and I started in to read this one with the usual pain. But I soon awoke to the fact that I was reading poetry—both in conception and workmanship—and I think that the young lady ought to have, and one of these days will have, a wider hearing."

"Sincerely your friend,
A. C. SCOTT."

Below is given the poem of Miss Roe:

THE FIGHT OF THE WOLVES.

A low, bent, whirling sky of smoky grey hung round the clear-cut horizon, where lay
A wide expanse of snow as coldly white,
Which by its very fairness held the last day's light.

With tossing heads and pawing of the snow,
And tails turned where the strongest plain winds blow.

Pressed close together in the waning light,
A bunch of ragged western ponies wait the night.

They run against each other, push and snarl,
With many a teasing bite and flying heel,
When, lo! from way beyond the drooping sky
Comes trampling down the wind a long-drawn, quivering cry.

And mark the channel! Each shaggy mustang's eye
Is filled with fire, each head is tossed on high;
For better far than any tongue can tell
Those frightened horses know the dismal, horrid yell.

Wolves! and in the dreary, snow-bound light,
The little band forms bravely for the fight.
Down from the north a skulking form appears;

Then shadowy followers gaunt, with eager, pointed ears.

They gather in a pack and slowly swing,
A waiting circle round the ponies' ring.

The fight begins. A grey, grim-visaged sire,
With red, low-hanging tongue, and eyes of lurid fire.

And strong the showing through the rugged hair
A half tail longer than the largest tere.

Emboldened by the presence of the rest,
Springs straight, with savage force, upon a broad, warm breast.

The fight is on! A cloud of flying mane!
While sharp hoofs flash through and through again.

Cut at the dancing form that sways and eludes,
And tear the cringing, quivering flesh each time it sways.

And thus all round, opposing strength and might,
The battle rages fiercely through the night.

At last a faint, grey streak foretells the day,
And tattered, battered, beaten back, robbed of their prey.

The fear of daylight quenching all their fire,
The snarl rolls up and sees across the plain.

With haggard eyes, and hanging head,
And blood-washed mane,
A bunch of western ponies, gashed and torn,

Ragged, unkempt, and panting in the morn,
Down in the snow, with fiercely, red, bright eyes,

And broken, useless back, the savage wolf-king lies.

He draws his massive shoulders up with pain,
To watch his whilom subjects cross the plain.

With wild despair and rage he sees them go,
And sends one plaintive, dying howl across the snow.

VIEW TARSNEY TAKES OF IT

Former Oklahoma Judge Talks Breezily of Political Situation.

Guthrie, O. T., April 14.—Recently Frank Cook of Cloud Chief and Tom Ferguson of Watonga, both prominent Republicans, met Judge Tarsney on a train, and by telling the former Oklahoma judge, now a resident of Kansas City, that he would have to vote for Bryan notwithstanding he was for sound money, elicited the following breezy views from Tarsney:

"We will have to vote for Bryan, but it will not hurt us much. We Democrats have been voting for him, and we are used to it and it doesn't hurt us any. You see the financial question is settled. True, Bryan represents the silver question, but everybody knows it is a settled question and no one will get scared over it. If I had the writing of the platform, I would put it in the silver case. I believe that I would put it in the silver case in just to catch the wild-eyed fellows who cannot understand anything else, and know but a little about that. Yes, it wouldn't hurt anything. The business men who I would want to support Bryan because he represents sound money."

things would know that the 16 to 1 would not mean anything because he represents some things that they favor."

Judge Tarsney was asked if he thought that the 16 to 1 silver plank would be in the Democratic platform, and he thought that the eastern Democrats would oppose it.

"Yes, they will oppose it," said he, "but when they are shown that it is a piece of dry bait to catch the Pops and western silverites, they will give in, knowing that any farther silver legislation in this country is impossible for many years to come. It's all right. Everybody knows that the silver question is a dead issue and will live only in platforms for political convenience."

Then Mr. Tarsney was asked to give his views on expansion.

"The next Democratic platform will contain an anti-expansion plank. That will not hurt us. The anti-expansion Democrats are mostly located where the states will go Democratic anyway—in the South."

In answer to a question as to what would be the main issue the Missourians replied: "You fellows are making issues for us pretty fast. The Porto Rican tariff bill, trusts, etc., will help us out. Then we expect to go out and show the people that this so-called McKinley prosperity is not real. We will show them that a surplus is just as dangerous as a deficit. We will prove to them that these imaginary good times are simply paying the way for an era of depression in commercial circles such as this country has never known before. These things with what anti-expansion sentiment Bryan can stir up in the east, and with his following in the west will keep the Republicans guessing. No, I don't think Bryan can be elected but he will make such a strong fight that a Democrat will be elected in four years. Cleveland could be elected this year, but we cannot nominate him."

The judge was then asked what he thought about Oklahoma politics. He said that as he viewed the situation, Flynn would be renominated and would be re-elected without much of a fight.

Below is given the poem of Miss Roe:

SAVED BY A PINCH OF SALT

How an Oklahoma Woman Managed to Escape the Lightning.

Guthrie, O. T., April 14.—An eye witness to the affair reports this incident of a storm that struck Guthrie, Okla., during the thunder storm last week a little incident occurred at the home of E. D. Murphy, four miles south of Guthrie, that is worthy of note. The men were sitting around the kitchen stove, while Mrs. Murphy was preparing the meal. She was stirring a dish on the stove and had just stepped back to the table for a pinch of salt, when the lightning struck the house and ran down the flue, striking the stove, the top of which was scattered over the room. The men were badly bruised, but the only serious damage was to Wilkes' shoe, the end of which was torn off, and, thinking his foot was badly hurt, danced around the room in a frantic manner, crying, "helpshire, my foot is knocked off," but after quieting him down an examination was made and the dark spots that resembled a bruise, such as lightning causes, were where his foot had come in contact with particles of mother earth. But the "pinch of salt" sure saved Mother Murphy from a worse fate.

IMPROVED COFFEE POTS

Cause of Many Peculiar but Similar Accidents in Oklahoma.

Guthrie, O. T., April 14.—An accident which, though peculiar, is becoming frequent in Oklahoma, follows from the boiling of coffee or tea in vessels which have tight lids, such as spring kettles. Mrs. Henry Wendell of Medford is the latest victim of such an accident. She is badly burned on the arm and face.

TEMPLE HOUTSON'S ESCAPE

Comes Nightly Near Going Down in the Canadian's Quicksand.

Guthrie, O. T., April 14.—News reaches here that Temple Houston of Woodward came very near going hence by the quicksand route this week. While he and Charles Swindall were crossing the South Canadian their buggy began sinking. They broke the horses loose from the buggy and got to shore by hard work. The buggy disappeared in the sands.

BY THE SAME OLD METHOD

Woods County Populists Don't Adopt New Proportional System.

Guthrie, O. T., April 14.—The Populists of Woods county have returned to make the radical changes in their primary elections proposed. The members of the party held primaries to determine between two plans for primary elections, one known as the Benson plan and the other as MacArthur's Cincinnati plan. Both plans provided for the initiative and referendum feature, the candidates first being suggested, then a given number selected by the central committee, and these put up for the people to select candidates from by ballot. Both the Benson and MacArthur plans were voted down and the Populists in Woods county this year will nominate their candidates by a regular delegate convention.

TUSK OF MASTODON FOUND

By a Farmer Near Alva, Oklahoma This Last Week.

Guthrie, O. T., April 14.—Last week near Alva, Okla., a mastodon, in places, was found eleven miles northwest of Alva by a Mr. Nighswonger. The tusk is five feet long and one foot in diameter at its base.

ONE OKLAHOMAN IS BRITISH

Territory Lad Who Is Fighting Against the Boers.

Guthrie, O. T., April 14.—Will Reed has written to his parents in Woods county that he is in South Africa and has enlisted with the British light cavalry service. He says that one needs to be only on the ground to see that the British are right.

TROUBLE OVER SMALL-POX BILLS

County Commissioners Cutting Down Charges of Physicians.

Guthrie, O. T., April 14.—Over the territory the doctor bills for the care of small-pox patients are coming in and in many instances the county commissioners are cutting them heavily by disallowing them entirely. Litigation will follow. The small-pox bill in Oklahoma in the aggregate is enormous.

WANTS THE OFFICE AGAIN

Mrs. Perkins, Grant County's Register, Asks for Re-election.

Guthrie, O. T., April 14.—Mrs. Edith M. Perkins of Pund Creek announces herself as an aspirant for the Republican nomination for register of Grant county. Mrs. Perkins was appointed to the office as a successor to her husband, and has made an acceptable official.

PARADISE OF COWS

Rough Rider Rhodes of Oklahoma on Cattle in Cuba.

HOW THEY THRIVE APACE

Gives Instances in the Way Value of Beef Climbs Up.

(Special Correspondence to the Eagle.)

Matanzas, Cuba, April 7.—The months of February and March are the time for burning off the grass here. The tops of the old grass are all dead, and although there is a fine undergrowth, immediately after being burned the new grass springs up, so that by burning only part at a time there is no loss of feed, as in ten days the new crop will be ankle deep. The only reason for firing it is because of the briars and vines that grow soon overrun the country if the tops were not destroyed. As the canefields will also burn there are laws against setting fire premeditatedly, and to be safe it is necessary to first obtain permission from the nearest sergeant of police and afterward notify all owners of surrounding land. A failure to do so is punishable by a heavy fine. If anyone is damaged he can sue and recover for same. Railroads, however, are not responsible for any fire caused by their engines.

It is surprising what an amount of repetitions it takes to convince some people of the truth. I frequently receive letters asking if it really is healthy in Cuba, stating that some public speaker has stated that the white man cannot live in the tropics. Others ask if a person can work in this climate, while others ask how it is possible to accomplish anything when it rains all the time. As far back as I can remember, the black name Cuba has, I don't believe there is a healthier country anywhere. As proof of this I cite the hospital records of the United States army. Their reports show that at no time was there more than two per cent of the army on the sick list, and nine-tenths of that was caused by drunkenness and venereal diseases. The death rate was much lower than a corresponding amount of troops quartered anywhere in the states.

As for statements made by public speakers, not one in a hundred ever saw Cuba and have but a vague conception of where it really is and the few that have been here stayed a few days in Havana and then went home to repeat their knowledge before a credulous public. In making a speech about a foreign place it is always safe to ridicule and belittle the people and customs. Some speakers will tell you that Spain is in the tropics, when in reality its southern boundary is far north as Washington and its northern is on the same parallel as Nova Scotia.

Whether a person can work here or not depends wholly upon the person, as some men cannot or will not work anywhere outside of the penitentiary. There is nothing in the climate to prevent it, as from October until May the thermometer will not average above 70 degrees, and there is always a pleasant sea breeze that is refreshing and invigorating. As for the balance of the year the thermometer never reaches above 90 degrees, and any farmer will tell you that he has cut wheat with it 110 degrees. And many times that was accompanied by a hot wind blowing from the sea, which was not blowing from the sea, but from the air and prevents that burning, glaring effect.

As for the rain, that is another common delusion, as this is really a dry country and would be barren if not for the dew. Every night there is a dew equal to an ordinary rain. The few rains are nothing but showers of a few hours' duration with perhaps a good heavy downpour once in about three or four months. It is true that when the army was at Santiago it rained almost every day, and very hard at that. Those rains, though, lasted but from twenty minutes to two hours, and only once the 10th of July did it rain all night. This may have been caused by the battle, for it is a fact never satisfactorily explained by scientists that rain nearly always falls after a battle.

Quite a number of Americans are taking advantage of the fine pasturage here and engage in the cattle business in a big way. Heretofore all stock brought in from other countries has been from milk cows for sale, but lately several bunches, from 50 to 100 head of cows, have arrived for stock purposes. One herd that arrived two months ago, very poor and hardly able to travel to the pasture, are now all sleek and fat, while over 50 per cent have dropped their calves. It is not the climate, but the fine pasturage that is the reason for this. The rainy days of the cattle business in Oklahoma lead to see these calves fattening around in luxuriant grass reaching to their backs. One bunch of Florida steers, 300 head, that were so poor and weak that 25 per cent had to be helped to their feet and twelve died on first landing, after six weeks were ready for the butcher. As those that fat in here in Florida and 25 for shipping, including tariff of 11 and brought 40 at the butchers, it can readily be seen that a handsome profit there is in the business. A Florida steer when fat will not weigh over 600 pounds even at 3 or 4 years old. The grass there is all of the variety known as wire grass, and is in bunches so far apart that it keeps the cattle busy searching for enough to eat to keep life in their bodies and there is none to spare for growing or fattening. There are, of course, some exceptions to this, noticeable around Tallahassee, where there is not so much wire grass, and where a few progressive men have introduced blooded stock, but the exceptions only prove the rule.

Many of the Florida stockmen are casting longing eyes toward Cuba, and the prospects of Cuba some day furnishing her own beef, thus curtailing the Florida trade was the subject recently discussed at a recent convention in Jacksonville. That it will be done there is no doubt, and why it was never done before is a question to which I can find no answer. The cattle kept on the plantations are all healthy and fat and breed readily. There was a protesting thrift of 18 per cent and prices were always high, yet for some reason were never raised in this or Havana province. The province of Puerto Principe, where the population will not average two persons per square mile, was well stocked but by no means supplied the market. There is a good pasture in this line anywhere in Cuba

and a man could find no more profitable business and practically no work, as there is green pasturage every day in the year. J. D. RHODES.

WOMEN MAY TAKE A HAND

In the Matter of Liquor Violations in the City of Tecumseh.

Guthrie, O. T., April 14.—Some of the women of Tecumseh threaten war on the women men of that place, and in one instance a woman who signs herself "Emma" declares that she will make a direct appeal to Judge Burwell. In a communication in the Tecumseh Republican this writer says with great violence:

"Of all the evils that afflict the human race, none so terrible, so fraught with evil results, so ruinous to homes, so prostituting to noble manhood, as the gulping down of poisonous whisky. It degrades its victims to the semblance of brutes; it wrecks once happy homes; it breaks the hearts of loving wives; it fills the jails and state prisons; it launches men from the scaffold to a drunkard's grave and costs the honest people millions of dollars of their hard earnings to support the courts for prosecutions. Could I dip my pen in the fountain of all wisdom, of literature par excellence, I would then fall to accurately depict the horrible evils of intemperance. And where, where, where are we to do? For a vast number of years an army of noble women have fought the monstrous evil—have prayed, wept, scolded, and even, gone to early graves, and yet the evil grows day by day. Two great political parties favor its spread and growth; their great conventions reek with the disgusting odor of the deadly poison and a majority of its members reel to their beds at night. The ministers of the gospel, God bless them, almost daily thunder their condemnation against its evil spread, and still it grows stronger and stronger, and like the anacardium draws its deadly folds around its victim. The solons of our lovely territory have given its spread full scope by legislative enactment. Why don't they pass a law that any man who commits rape if he will deposit \$20 with the county treasurer? The crime, while hideous beyond expression, would not be greater than for a man to sell whisky to another when he knows that the victim will go home and abuse his wife and children and starve to death. To cut a long and short, we women are going to use the only chance left us, and it is for that reason we write this warning. Our benevolent solons have forbidden the sale of this damning beverage on Sunday and after midnight to boys and confirmed drunkards. They have also forbidden the sale of this damned beverage to women. Now, we say, if these prohibitions are to mean anything, let us cut a long and short. We know you sell every Sabbath; to boys to drunkards, and that your gambling den runs all the while. If you stop these things now and at once we may forgive the past; but mark you! If you don't we'll publish your name and your crimes and make a direct appeal to Judge Burwell at the next term of his court. Will you take heed? You had better."

IT IS KNOCKED OUT

Uncle Sam Abolishes Osage National Government.

SOME OFFICERS RETAINED

But the Greater Part of the Indian Government Is Gone.

Pawhuska, O. T., April 14.—An order has been issued by the secretary of the interior, announced by the commissioner of Indian affairs, to be in effect on and after May 1st, 1900, abolishing the Osage national government, excepting fifteen members of the national council, the office of principal chief and assistant principal chief, and the office of principal chief and assistant principal chief, to be abolished, and after said date the affairs of the Osage nation be administered under the direct supervision of this office and the interior department.

"A copy of said department order and also a copy of the opinion, dated March 22, 1900, as to the status of the Osage national government, are hereby enclosed for your information.

Very respectfully,
W. A. JONES,
Commissioner."

The order abolishes about twenty official positions of the Osage Indian government.

HOW A SOLDIER HEARD OF IT

Pathetic Letter From an Oklahoma Boy to the Philippines.

Guthrie, O. T., April 14.—A pathetic letter is written by an Oklahoma soldier boy in the Philippines—George Hoffman of Kingfisher. It describes, together, a scene in the far-off east and a fancied scene in Oklahoma. The letter reads:

"I will try and write you a letter today, but I don't know whether I will get through or not, as I am feeling rather sad. Six days ago my company went on a fifty mile march and was out two days without rations, except what little rice we could find along the road. Coming back, when we were all tired and hungry, some one would say: 'Don't play out, boys, for I don't know what I will get through or not, as I am feeling rather sad. Six days ago my company went on a fifty mile march and was out two days without rations, except what little rice we could find along the road. Coming back, when we were all tired and hungry, some one would say: 'Don't play out, boys, for I don't know what I will get through or not, as I am feeling rather sad. Six days ago my company went on a fifty mile march and was out two days without rations, except what little rice we could find along the road. 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